



Employee Newsletter



Judge's Corner



The rise in temperature reflects the official start of summer. Please remember to stay hydrated, use sunscreen and limit your activity in direct sunlight to avoid heat exhaustion.

This year history was made. Juneteenth was recognized as a federal holiday! Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and celebrates African American culture. It originated in Galveston, Texas and has

been celebrated annually on June 19th in various parts of the United States since 1866.

As our country bravely continues to reopen, public and employee safety is top priority. On June 15th, I served as a panelist for the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) webinar *Part I: "Considerations for Reopening Juvenile and Family Courts: Physical and Environmental Safety"*. This webinar was important as it provided vital information on establishing and maintaining the safety and well-being of the public we serve, as well as court employees.

The City of Memphis continues to provide vaccine eligibility and sign-up information at: <https://covid19.memphistn.gov/vaccine/>. You may receive assistance by telephone at (901) 222-7468 (SHOT). Vaccines are now available for all adults and children 12 and over. If you have not been vaccinated, I

encourage you to do so.

Also, for the health and safety of everyone, all persons entering the building must wear a mask and practice social distancing. All employees are expected to remain in their work bubbles. Please do not hesitate to contact your immediate supervisor if you have any questions or concerns regarding COVID-19 policies and procedures.

Be safe, stay cool and keep up the great work!

"You are your best thing." ~Toni Morrison

In Memoriam, Leon Gray Jr.



Leon Gray Jr. joined our Court family in 2016 as my Special Assistant. To say that he served the children and families of Shelby County well is an understatement.

Leon, as many of us knew, was a man of faith and dedicated his life as a champion for many causes. The Court has indeed lost a hero. I have lost a dear friend and great colleague.

Judge Dan H. Michael

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Special points of interest:

- Employee Birthdays & Anniversaries
- New Hires
- My Thoughts

In Memoriam, Carlton L. Addison



An incredibly amazing man, **Carlton L. Addison**, was the patriarch of our family.

Magistrate Addison and family are extremely grateful for the overwhelming outpouring of your prayers, generosity, love and support.

Photo and article submitted by Magistrate Judge Carlyn Addison.

Congratulations, Pshonna Hill!



Mary Winston is the proud grandmother of **Pshonna Hill**. **Pshonna** graduated from East High School on June 16, 2021. She will be attending Xavier University this fall on a full scholarship.

Article and photo submitted by Mary Winston (Administrative Services).



National Gun Violence Awareness Day (6/4/21)

Juvenile Court and Juvenile Court Clerk's Office took a stand against gun violence by wearing **orange**, the color of the gun safety movement on National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Article and photos submitted by Martha Rogers (Youth Services Bureau/Y &R).





Years of Service Program



Court Services recently held its Annual Years of Service program.



Jacqueline Parson, Lakeisa Martin, Judith Hampton, Satina Williams, Shericka Banks



Dr. Bernard Williams, Felicia Banks, Martha Rogers



Martha Rogers, Marcus Claxton, Felicia Banks



Dr. Bernard Williams, Joan Maxwell-Pewitt, Erica Glynn

Newest Process Office TEAM member recognized for Excellence



On April 23, 1908 the Army Reserve was officially formed by the United States Congress in order to place a large portion of American Citizen-Soldiers under federal control during times of peace and war. From this the term “Twice the Citizen” was born. Reservists serve their local communities in their civilian capacity and also serve the nation when performing military duty, normally once per month.

The newest member of the Juvenile Court Clerk’s Office, **Process Officer Elijah Ford**, also completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training just prior to joining our TEAM. **PV2 Ford** is a 12B, Combat Engineer, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 467 Engineer Battalion in Millington, TN.

Since joining the Clerk’s TEAM, **Officer Ford** has proven himself to be a self-starter, anxious to learn all he can and more than willing to take on any task he’s given. With this can-do spirit, it was no surprise when he was recently recognized by his Battalion Commander with the awarding of the Army Achievement Medal for “outstanding achievement during the May 2021 Field Training Exercise.” It was further noted “his actions were vital to the success and mission accomplishment of his Company.”

Congratulations **PV2/Officer Ford**! We are proud of your service to the nation and are glad to have you with our organization!



Persevere Shoe Drive



Allen Farmer with Persevere partnered with Juvenile Court and Juvenile Court Clerk’s Office for a shoe drive. A very special thank you to everyone who participated with this event!

Pictured left is Allen Farmer (Persevere), **Court CAO Pam Skelton** and **Clerk’s Office CAO Matt Kuhn** with the shoe donation.

Youth Court Program

The Youth Court Program felt the rippling effects of the worldwide pandemic, but thanks to the support of **Judge Dan H. Michael**, Court administration and Shelby County Schools (SCS) we maintained operations. SCS has budgeted for the Youth Court Program over the last few years. In the 2020-2021 school year, Gregory Sanders and Dr. Lakira Elliott (*Director and Manager of SCS Student Safety*) informed us our annual budget had been doubled.

The Youth Court staff is quiet, but the amount of work that we do to ensure that the program hearings are flawlessly conducted is not easy. Program coordinators, **Pamela James** and **Jasmine Newsom** are dedicated to ensuring that all volunteers are well prepared and most importantly treated with kindness, dignity and respect.

Here are just a few of the Youth Court Program's accomplishments: **Established a 20-hour training program for new members currently being used statewide, *Steadily maintaining a 5% recidivism rate, *Number of high school program youth volunteers has increased to 1,884, *Attorney volunteers has increased to 90, *Total number of juveniles either referred to or had a hearing is 974, *Participating high schools has increased to 23, *Program sized has increased to include two coordinators*

As in all years past, the Youth Court Program closed out the academic year by honoring our volunteer attorneys and high school seniors. We are truly grateful for our attorney volunteers. Their mentoring gifts bring a realm of realism to the dreams and goals that the participating youth have set for themselves. The program attorneys work alongside each youth as they prepare their clients and cases for hearings.

The pandemic year required great volunteer sacrifices. With the financial support of SCS, the Youth Court Program was able to show appreciation to our seniors and attorney volunteers for their "Keep it Going" dedication. A plaque (*pictured right*) was presented to the following individuals:



HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Jazmine Allen	Attending: George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia	Major: Psychology
Erin Dodson	Attending: Tennessee State University (FULL SCHOLARSHIP)	Double Major: Criminal Justice and Psychology
Madysen Gatewood	Attending: Prairie View A&M University	Major: Legal Studies/ Criminal Justice
Jakiyah Griffin	Attending: American International College (FULL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP) Massachusetts	Major: Law (Member of Rugby Team)
Irene Jacob	Attending: University of Georgia	Major: Civil Engineering
Arian Johnson	Attending: Alabama A&M	Major: Biology
DeWayne Mason	Attending: Christian Brothers University	Double Major: Electrical Engineering and Computer
Zahria Pitts	Attending: Taking a GAP year	Technical: Cosmetology
Leo Osborne	Attending: University of Southern Indiana	Major: Manufacturing Engineering
Madison Smith	Attending: University of Miami (FULL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP)	Double Major: Africana Studies and English

MENTORING ATTORNEYS

Attorney Scot Bearup , Juvenile Court Administrator	Attorney Jose Holland , Holland Garcia PLLC
Attorney Steve Jones , Shelby County District Attorney's Office	Attorney Samuel Jones , Law Office of Samuel Jones
Attorney Cindy Ettingoff , Memphis Area Legal Services	Attorney Sally Barron , Jackson Lewis PC
Attorney Julius Besser , Besser Law Firm	Attorney Valorie Smith , J.G. Law Firm
Attorney Pamela Williams Kelly , Law Offices of Pamela Williams Kelly	Attorney Sharon Ladd , Law Office of Sharon Ladd
Attorney April Bostick , Bostick Law PLLC	Attorney Venecia Patterson , Shelby County District Attorney's Office
Attorney Christina Gibson , Law Office of Christina Gibson	Attorney Michelle Parks , U.S. Attorney's Office
Attorney Alicia Washington , A Washington Law Firm PLLC	Attorney Glen Baity , Shelby County District Attorney's Office
Attorney Victoria Gilliard , Law Office of Victoria Gilliard	Attorney Lora Fowler , Shelby County District Attorney's Office

Article and photo submitted by Avis Allen (Manager, Youth Court).

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.” ~ *Nelson Mandela*

Supreme Court ruling will make it easier to sentence juveniles to life sentence without parole



On last month, the Supreme Court upheld the sentence of life without parole for a juvenile offender in a 6-3 decision, rejecting arguments that such sentences should have additional limits.

Justice Brett Kavanaugh penned the decision for his conservative colleagues, holding that a sentence will not have to make a separate finding that the juvenile offender was incapable of being rehabilitated. The ruling will make it easier for those who committed their crime under the age of 18 to be sentenced to prison for life without parole.

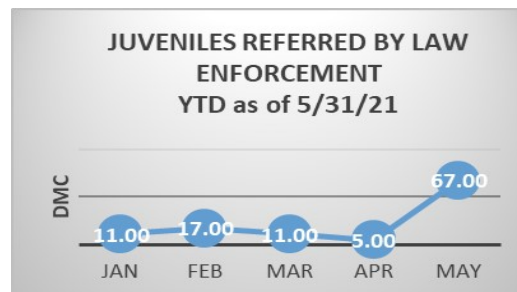
If a sentencing discretion is all that is required, far too many juvenile offenders will be sentenced to die in prison and the sentences will “not fall equally,” Sotomayor wrote. She pointed specifically to the fact that 70% of all youths that receive such sentences are “children of color”. ~*CNN*



Lea Ester Redmond-Terrell

Deputy Administrator of DMC
Juvenile Court of Memphis & Shelby County

JUVENILES ADMITTED TO JUVENILES COURT DETENTION CENTER REFERRED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT YTD 5/31/21							
		May-21					
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	YTD TOTAL
HISPANIC / LATINO	BLACK	1	1	0	0	1	3
	MIXED RACE	0	0	0	0	1	1
	WHITE	6	2	0	3	2	13
	TOTAL	7	3	0	3	4	17
NON-HISPANIC/ LATINO	BLACK	40	38	38	48	65	229
	MIXED RACE	0	1	0	0	0	1
	WHITE	2	2	4	1	1	10
	TOTAL	42	41	42	49	66	240
TOTAL		49	44	42	52	70	257
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
DMC RATIO		11	17	11	5	67	



DMC Training for New Hires and Refreshers

Please mark your calendar
ZOOM Training Dates: Sept. 8-9, 2021

Happy Birthday, June Birthdays:

Deborah Kruczek
Erica Glynn
Dennis James
Sylvester Simmons

Christina Maggette
Shirley Terrell
LaDonna Graham
Lea Ester Redmond-Terrell

Jina Shoaf
James Franklin
Deona Wimbley

Shannon Caraway
Mitzi Pollard
Tabitha Wray

Dewon Porter
Shirle Kaufman
Karen Brooks

June Anniversary Dates

Court Services:

Barbara Jackson, 32 years
Jonathan Ritter, 23 years
Bryan Branch, 22 years
Lisa Hughes, 13 years
Cloteal Bowers, 10 years
Emily Boone, 8 years

Judicial:

Carlyn Addison, 16 years
Lyttonia Cunningham, 15 years

Clerk's Office:

LaDonna Graham, 35 years

Administrative Services:

Latonia White, 24 years
Laurie Neale, 10 years
Blake Lesko, 6 years
Tamika Williams, 4 years

Happy Anniversary

*Thank you for your hard work and
dedicated service!*



Kristie Hardy

*Accountant
Administrative Services*

Welcome New Hires!

Marcus Stansberry

*Volunteer Coordinator
Volunteer Services Bureau*



Sherrie Williams

*Juvenile Services Counselor II
Children's Bureau-Protective*

Recipe: Apple Broccoli Salad

Ingredients:

*6 medium tart apples, chopped
3 cups broccoli florets
1 small onion, chopped
1/2 cup raisins
1 1/2 cups mayonnaise
2 tablespoons white vinegar
1 1/2 teaspoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon salt
10 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts*

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, combine the apples, broccoli, onion and raisins.
2. In a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise, vinegar, sugar, lemon juice and salt; pour over apple mixture and toss to coat.
3. Cover and chill at least 2 hours.
4. Just before serving, stir in the bacon and walnuts.

Recipe from Taste of Home.





Congratulations, Makaila Pegues!



Proud mom Michelle and Makaila at graduation!

You probably noticed **Michelle Jones** (*Supervisor-Minute Clerk's Department*) is walking with her head held higher than usual...even more pep in her step. It very well could be the fact that her daughter, **Makaila Pegues** recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Louisville with a Master's of Public Administration. She previously obtained her undergraduate degree in Political Science/Sociology from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. **Ms. Jones** commented, "I'm super proud – especially considering **Makaila** is the first to graduate from college in our family."

Makaila lives in Louisville. She works for Humana as a Cyber Data Strategic Professional, where she currently serves as the Coordinator for the Director of Cyber Security for Humana.

Ms. Jones is also very proud of the fact **Makaila** is such a giving person. She recently served as the Lead Coordinator of Volunteers for the Make A Wish Foundation for the Kentucky/Indiana/Ohio area, helping scores of child realize their wish!



Makaila supporting her alma mater!

Juvenile Court Clerk's Office Employee Wins Vaccination Drawing!



In an ongoing effort to maximize the number of County employees who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, the Shelby County Health Department offered free Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines to all Shelby County Government employees. To "sweeten the pot" and further encourage employee participation, multiple drawings were held with \$500.00 gift cards as the prize!

Dwan Gillom, Chief Administrative Officer for Mayor Harris hand-delivered one of the \$500.00 gift cards to **Janille Mosley Townsel** (*Principle Court Clerk-Minute Clerk's Department*).

Congratulations, **Ms. Townsel**! We look forward to seeing what you purchase with your gift card!



Project STAND



Dr. Bernard Williams (*Court Services*) had the honor to participate with the Project STAND mentoring program and Carver High School with their week of events. Project STAND provided the girls with dresses and suits for the boys.

*Article and photo submitted by
Dr. Bernard Williams (Children's Bureau).*

My Thoughts: Something Positive I Have Learned or Experienced During the Pandemic

"During the pandemic, I lost both of my parents. Being such a hugging, touching family it brought me a lot of anxiety, sadness and isolation. My parents were married for 64 years and literally could not live without each other. My Dad passed April 30, 2020 and Mother passed February 10, 2021. This pandemic has taught me to cherish every moment with your loved ones and be kind to everyone you come in contact with. Thank you to all my Juvenile Court family for your love and support during this very hard time. "Love Lifted Me, Love Lifted Me, when nothing else could help, Love lifted Me!" ~James Rowe 1912.

~Martha Rogers (Youth Services Bureau/E & R)

"Enjoy precious time with family and friends. Never take life for granted cause we never know when it will be our last days on Earth. And also thankful to be in our right mind and have a job to come to every day."

~Toni White (Volunteer Services Bureau)

"Life is short, thus we much embrace each day with thanksgiving and each other with love and kindness."

~ Dr. Demetria Banks (Judicial)



Shelby County Government Training Opportunities

Training and Development Course Offerings			
JULY 2021			
Date	Class Title	Category	Time
7/7/2021	Giving & Receiving Constructive Feedback	SU	2:00PM - 3:00PM
7/8/2021	Leading with Empathy	SU	8:30AM - 9:30AM
7/12/2021	Perception is Reality (HYBRID)	PD	8:30AM - 9:30AM
7/13/2021	Building Effective Leadership Skills (HYBRID)	PD	8:30AM - 9:30AM
7/14/2021	Effective Customer Service Skills	PD	2:00PM - 3:00PM
7/15/2021	Attitude is Everything (HYBRID)	PD	8:30AM - 9:30AM
7/15/2021	Working Together Apart	Webinar	10:00AM - 11:00AM
7/15/2021	Emotional Intelligence in Action	PD	2:00PM - 3:00PM
7/20/2021	It's Time for Recess: Play at Work	PD	2:00PM - 3:00PM
7/21/2021	Cultivating a Culture of Employee Engagement in Government (HYBRID)	PD	8:30AM - 9:30AM
7/21/2021	Manage Through Change	Webinar	10:00AM - 11:00AM
7/22/2021	Clerical Training Program	CT	8:30AM - 4:30PM
7/26/2021	Adapting to Change (HYBRID)	PD	8:30AM - 9:30AM

Head over to the Train Together site to Enroll

This is the July 2021 (online) Shelby County Government Training & Development calendar.

To enroll go to: <https://traintogether.shelbycountyttn.gov/>. Click on the Course Category within Train Together to sign up for classes. All course links and descriptions may be found by clicking the "i" icon next to the course names.

Contact Jennifer Williams, Training Coordinator with any questions at jennifer.williams@shelbycountyttn.gov or (901) 222-7680.